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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

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Major General John B. Marks, U.S. Air Force  
Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence  
Department of the Air Force  
Washington, D.C. 20330

Dear John:

The note from your Executive formally advising of your departure to take over the Electronic Security Command made me realize that your departure is imminent.

While there may be other opportunities between now and the 17th, I just wanted to tell you what a great pleasure it has been working with you over the past year and a half. I have thoroughly enjoyed our conversations at NFIB and have taken a special, perverse pleasure in our occasional joint forays that brought consternation and horror to analysts in both of our organizations. It helps keep them on their toes and makes both of our jobs more fun.

One of the least known of Bill Casey's achievements is the different spirit that pervades the NFIB -- one of partnership and friendship and the candor reserved for close associates. You have played an important role in bringing that spirit to the table. While I know and welcome Jim Pfautz, I want you to know I genuinely will miss working with you.

Very best wishes in San Antonio.

With warm regards,



Robert M. Gates  
Deputy Director for Intelligence

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